संचार मंत्रालय में (स्वतंत्र प्रभार) राज्य मंत्री (श्री जनेश्वर मिश्र) : (क) और (ख) जानकारी एकत्र की जा रही हैं और इसे सभा-पटल पर रख दिया जायेगा।

Filling of post of Chairman Shipping Corporation of India

901. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that post of the Chairman of Shipping Corporation of India remained vacant for a considerable period of time; if so, details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a panel of names for filling up the post was submitted by the Public Sector Enterprises Selection Board, if so, when;

(c) when did the present incumbent take over; and

(d) whether he was appointed from the panel of names submitted by PESB?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) The post of Chairman and Managing Director in Shipping Corporation of India Ltd. fell vacant on 21-12-1989 consequent to the expiry of the tenure of the previous incumbent.

(b) Yes, Sir. The panel of names was received earlier from the Public Enterprises Selection Board on 25-10-1989.

(c) and (d) Pending regular appointment, Shri J. C. Sheth, the seniormost Joint Managing Director in SCI is acting as Chairman and Managing Director, SCI w.e.f. 22-12-89. He did not appear before the PESM when the old panel was finalised.

Fire incidents in Jhuggis in Delhi

902. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a series of devastating fire incidents have occurred in Delhi in the clusters of jhuggis in various places in the recent past;

(b) the number of persons who died and those injured by the fire to the extent of becoming invalid;

(c) whether Government have provided any relief to the families of there fire victims so far; if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any investigation has been ordered into the causes of the fire incidents in the respective places, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether some persons have been arrested for alleged sabotage activities such as setting fire in jhuggis; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 13 persons died in these incidents of fire.

(c) A sum of Rs. 43,87,500 has been disbursed as *ex-gratia* payment to the occupants of the affected jhuggis and Rs. 1,30,000 to the next of the kin of the deceased.

(d) Magisterial inquiry has been ordered into the fire incident of Motia Khan.

(e) 2 persons have been arrested in a case relating to fire in Shahbad Deri.